



A NEW THOR HAS RISEN.

AFTER THOR ODINSON FOUND HIMSELF NO LONGER WORTHY OF WIELDING MJOLNIR, A MYSTERIOUS WOMAN WAS ABLE TO LIFT THE ENCHANTED HAMMER AND BECAME THE NEW GODDESS OF THUNDER!

BUT NOT EVERYONE IS HAPPY ABOUT IT. ALL-FATHER ODIN, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED TO ASGARDIA AFTER A SELF-IMPOSED EXILE WHERE HE SERVED AS HIS BROTHER CUL'S JAILOR, IS NOT HAPPY TO SEE SOMEONE ELSE USING THE HAMMER THAT HE HAD CREATED SPECIALLY FOR HIS SON.

AND THAT SON (THE OLD THOR) WASN'T HAPPY ABOUT LOSING THE HAMMER EITHER. HE WENT TO CONFRONT THE NEW GODDESS OF THUNDER, BUT AFTER A FIGHT THAT SHOOK ALL TEN REALMS, HE FINALLY WISED UP AND REALIZED THAT SHE ACTUALLY IS WORTHY.

THE TWO THUNDER GODS THEN JOINED FORCES TO TURN BACK AN ASSAULT BY THE EVIL DARK ELF KING MALEKITH AND THE FROST GIANTS ON EARTH (OR MIDGARD, AS THE ASGARDIANS CALL IT). WITH THE DAY SAVED, ODINSON OFFICIALLY HANDED OVER THE NAME OF THOR, LEAVING THE GODDESS OF THUNDER TO FORGE HER OWN PATH AS THE NEWEST CHAMPION OF MIDGARD!



BEHOLD, A NEW AGE OF THUNDER

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ASGARDIA. CITY OF THE GODS.

"A GREAT AND TERRIBLE
CRIME HAS BEEN COMMITTED
IN THE HEAVENS."



HLIDSKJALF. THE HIGH SEAT OF THE ALL-FATHER, FROM WHICH ALL THE REALMS OF CREATION CAN BE SEEN.

MJOLNIR,
THE HAMMER OF
HAMMERS...

FORGED AT
MY BEHEST EONS
AGO BY THE DWARVEN
BLACKSMITHS OF NIDAVELLIR
FROM SACRED URU METAL,
AND ENCHANTED WITH A
VESTIGE OF MINE
OWN LIMITLESS
POWER...

HAS BEEN
CORRUPTED AND
STOLEN.

SUCH A
BLASPHEMOUS
CRIME MUST NOT
GO UNPUNISHED.
THIS THIEF, WHOEVER
SHE MAY BE, SHALL
BE MADE TO FACE
ASGARDIAN
JUSTICE.

BY THE
POWER OF THE
ALL-FATHER, I SAY...
LET HER BE
REVEALED!



SHOW ME,
OMNI-RUNES--
ODIN COMMANDS
THEE! SHOW ME
THE FACE OF
THIS THIEVING
SORCERESS!

SHOW ME THE
ONE WHO DARES
CALL HERSELF
THOR!



 **MIDGARD.**
THE ISLAND OF
MANHATTAN.

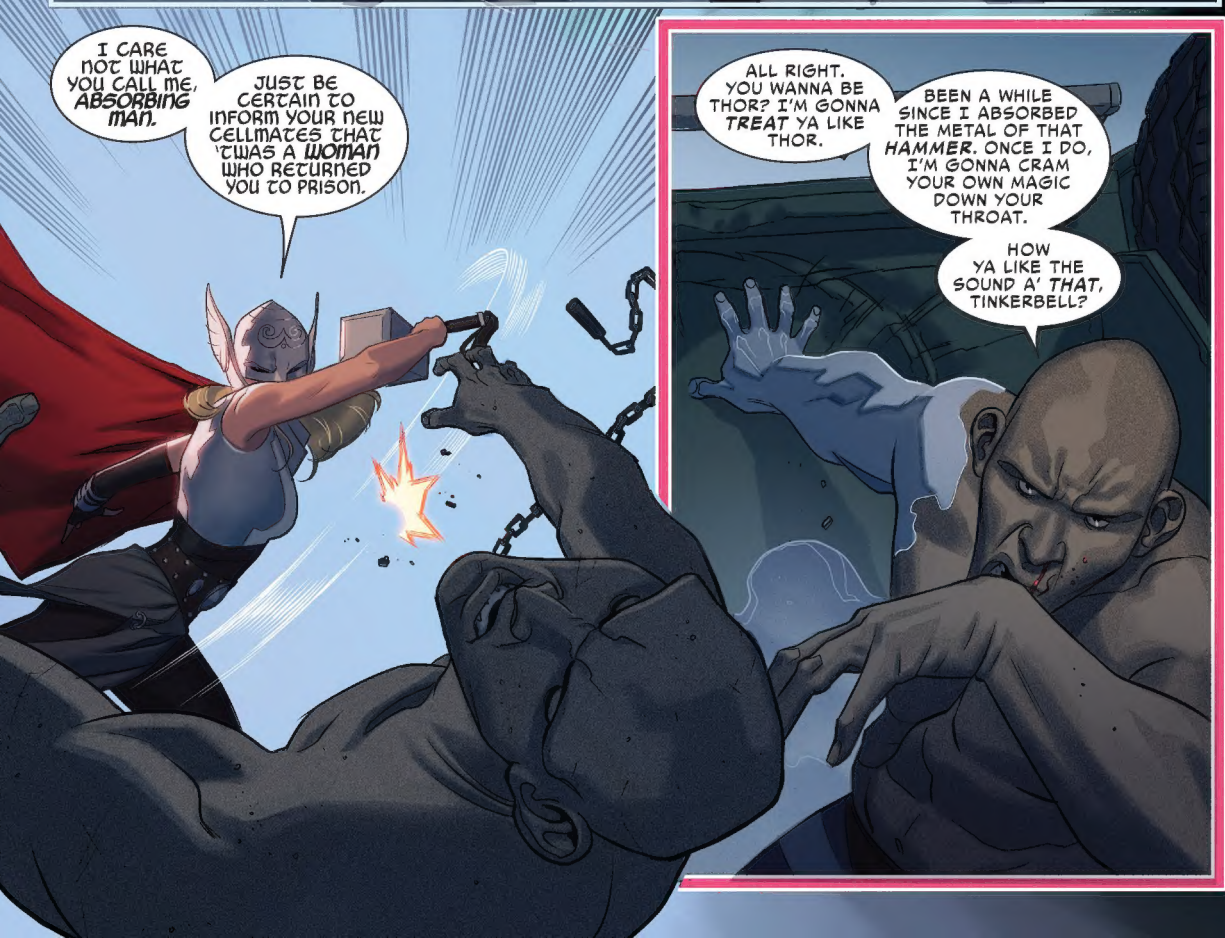
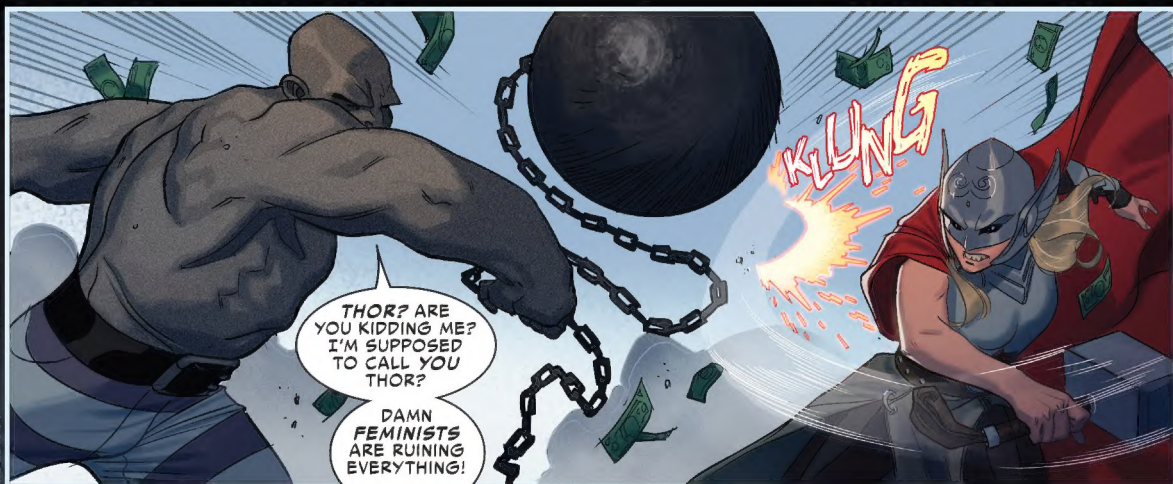
LADY,
WHOEVER YOU
ARE, YOU PICKED
THE WRONG FELLA
TO PLAY *DRESS-*
UP WITH.

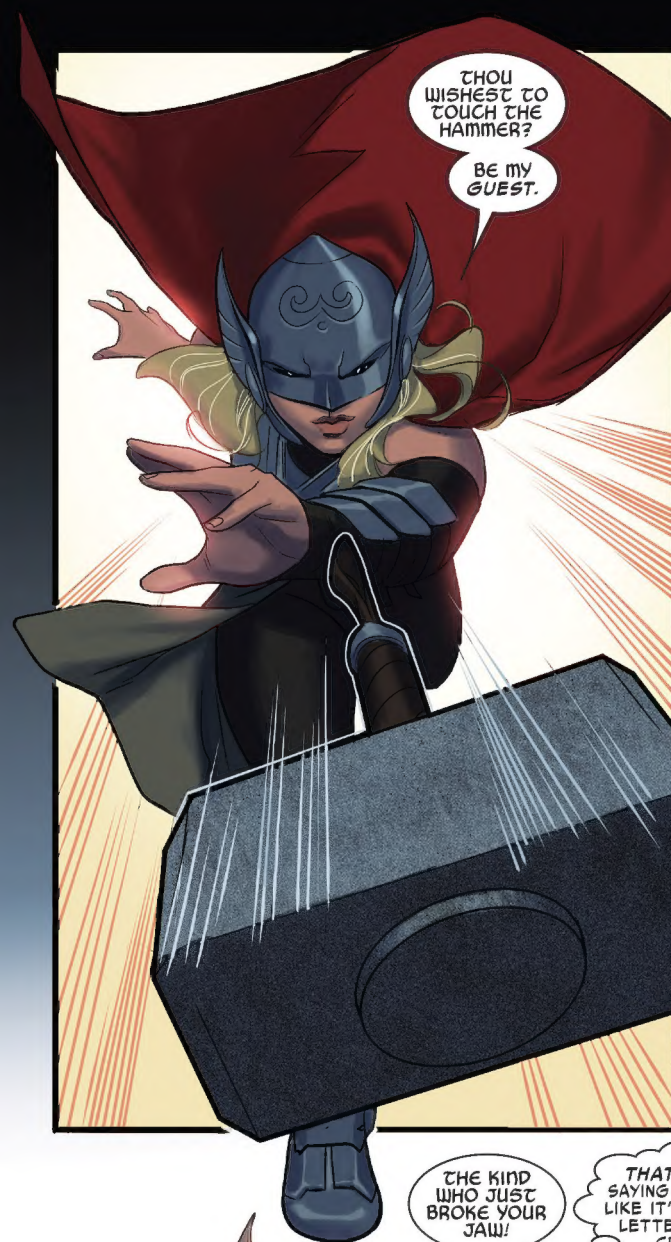
'CAUSE
CRUSHER CREEL
AIN'T GOT TIME
FOR FUN AND
GAMES.

AND **THOU**,
CREEL, HAST
CHOSEN THE
WRONG HOUR IN
WHICH TO PLUNDER
THE WEALTH OF
MIDGARD.

FOR **THOR**
ONCE MORE
STANDS WATCH
OVER THE
REALMS OF
MEN!







THOU
WISHEST TO
TOUCH THE
HAMMER?

BE MY
GUEST.



WHAT THE?!
WHAT'S GOTTEN
INTO THIS CRAZY
THING?

THIS AIN'T
HOW IT'S SUPPOSED
TO WORK! WHAT THE
HELL KIND OF A
THOR ARE YOU?



THE KIND
WHO JUST
BROKE YOUR
JAW!

THAT'S FOR
SAYING "FEMINIST"
LIKE IT'S A FOUR-
LETTER WORD,
CREEP.

AND ALSO...
YOU KNOW...FOR
THE ROBBING.

WHAT
THE HELL'S
GOING ON
OUT HERE?

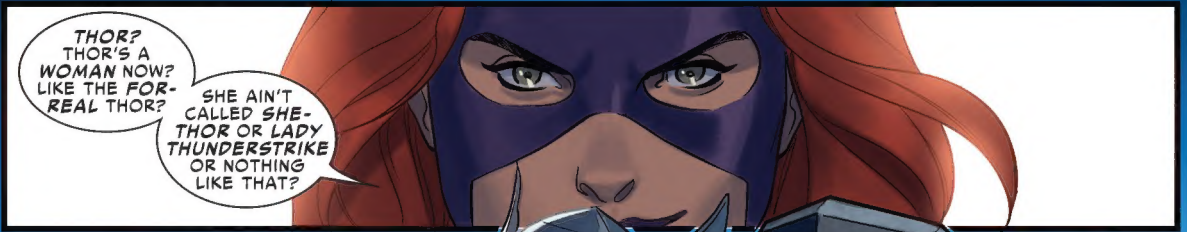


WHAT'D YOU JUST DO TO MY HUSBAND?

EEE KROKE MY YAW!

HEY, ONLY I GET TO BREAK HIS JAW. WHO ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?

RHOR.



THOR?
THOR'S A WOMAN NOW?
LIKE THE FOR-REAL THOR?

SHE AIN'T CALLED SHE-THOR OR LADY THUNDERSTRIKE OR NOTHING LIKE THAT?



THOR IS THOR. STAND DOWN, TICANIA, OR YOU TOO SHALL KNOW THE WRATH OF THE GODDESS OF THUNDER.



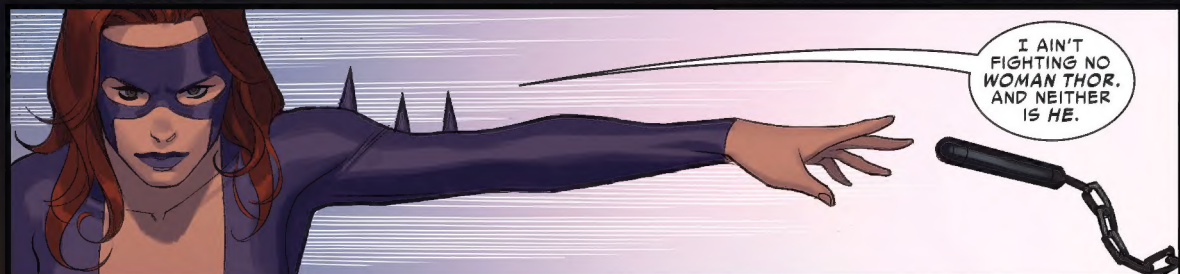
"THOR, GODDESS OF THUNDER." I'LL BE DAMNNED. HOW COME I HADN'T HEARD ABOUT THIS?

HOO CREERS? RET'S KRILL ER.

HOLD ON, CRUSHER.



LET ME HANDLE THIS, BABY.





YES. THERE SHE STANDS, STOLEN HAMMER IN HAND, **FLAUNTING** HER CRIME.

SHOW ME HER **SECRETS**-- SHOW ME THE WITCH **UNMASKED!**

SPYING ON OTHER WOMEN, DEAR? WHAT IS YOUR **LOVING WIFE** TO THINK OF THIS?

THINK WHAT YOU WILL, **FREXTA**. I AM MERELY TRYING TO RIGHT THE WRONG OUR FOOL SON ALLOWED TO HAPPEN.

YOU COULDN'T LIFT THE HAMMER **EITHER**, FATHER, IN CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN.

I DO NOT BELIEVE HE HAS FORGOTTEN THAT.



THIS MASKED WOMAN WILL BE CALLED TO ACCOUNT FOR WHAT SHE'S DONE. I WILL HAVE THAT HAMMER **RETURNED**.

I TOLD YOU. IT'S **HERS** NOW. LEAVE HER BE.

YOU...TOLD ME? HAVE I BEEN AWAY SO LONG YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THE WAY OF THINGS, BOY?

YOU, THOR, DO NOT TELL YOUR ALL-FATHER ANYTHING!




I'M NO LONGER THOR. I'VE TOLD YOU **THAT** AS WELL.

IT IS BAD ENOUGH THIS FOUL WOMAN HAS STOLEN YOUR HAMMER! SHE CANNOT STEAL YOUR NAME AS WELL!


SHE DID NOT STEAL IT. I **GAVE** IT TO HER.

YOU CANNOT GIVE AWAY YOUR BIRTHRIGHT! I **FORBID** IT!






IT WOULD SEEM
YOU ARE THE ONE
WHO HAS FORGOTTEN
THE WAY OF THINGS,
HUSBAND. YOUR SON
DID NOT BECOME
WILLFUL OVERNIGHT.



YOU HAVE ALL
BECOME TOO WILLFUL
IN MY ABSENCE! MUST I
REMINDE YOU THAT IT WAS
ODIN WHO LITERALLY
HUNG THE STARS? ODIN,
WHO STANDS ALONE
ABOVE ALL!



AT THIS
MOMENT, FATHER,
ALL I NEED BE
REMIND OF...IS
WHAT **HE** IS
DOING HERE.



HELLO,
ODINSON.

MY DEAREST
SYMPATHIES
ON THE LOSS OF
YOUR HAMMER.

AND YOUR
ARM.

CUL BORSON.
GOD OF FEAR.




CUL IS MY BROTHER. HE WILL
HAVE A PLACE IN COURT THAT
BEFITS HIS BIRTH.

HE IS A
BUTCHER AND
A **MADMAN!**

HE IS THAT
AS WELL. BUT
THAT DOES NOT
CHANGE HIS
BLOOD.

CUL AND I
SPENT MANY MONTHS
TOGETHER IN THE WILDS
OF OLD ASGARD. HE HAS
REPENTED HIS SINS, AND
I HAVE FORGIVEN HIM.
HE IS A **REFORMED
GOD.**



THUS I HAVE
NAMED HIM MY
ROYAL INQUISITOR
AND **MINISTER OF
JUSTICE.**

JUSTICE? CUL
RAISED AN ARMY
AND SET MIDGARD
AFLAME! HE SOUGHT
TO **MURDER** ME!



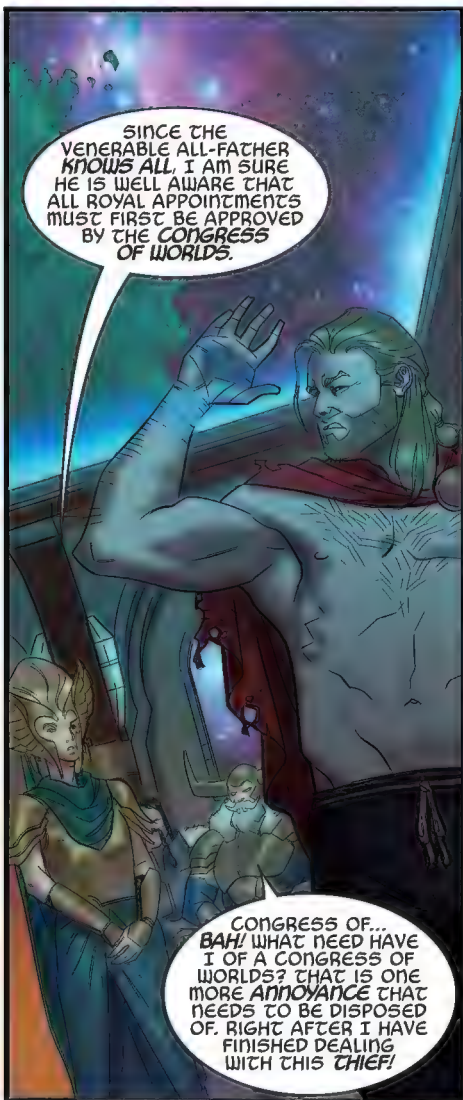
I SEEM TO RECALL THAT I DID MURDER YOU, NEPHEW.

FOR WHICH I DO HUMBLY BEG YOUR PARDON.

I WOULD RATHER SEE YOU BEG FOR YOUR LIFE, SERPENT!

CEASE THIS PRATTING, BOY! CUL BORSON IS THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND WILL BE RESPECTED AS SUCH! THE ALL-FATHER HAS *SPOKEN!*

AHEM.



SINCE THE VENERABLE ALL-FATHER KNOWS ALL, I AM SURE HE IS WELL AWARE THAT ALL ROYAL APPOINTMENTS MUST FIRST BE APPROVED BY THE CONGRESS OF WORLDS.

CONGRESS OF... BAH! WHAT NEED HAVE I OF A CONGRESS OF WORLDS? THAT IS ONE MORE ANNOYANCE THAT NEEDS TO BE DISPOSED OF. RIGHT AFTER I HAVE FINISHED DEALING WITH THIS CHIEF!



WHY HAVE I NOT YET SEEN HER FACE? WHERE ARE THE WITCH'S SECRETS I DEMANDED?

I AM SORRY, MY LORD, BUT...THERE APPEARS TO BE SOME SORT OF INTERFERENCE WITH THE OMNI-RUNES. THE INFLUENCE OF MJOLNIR'S ENCHANTMENT PERHAPS, OR...

LORD CUL, AS MINISTER OF JUSTICE YOUR FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS WILL BE TO JAIL EVERY ONE OF MY ROYAL VIZIERS FOR THE CRIME OF UTTER INCOMPETENCE!



AS YOU COMMAND, MY ALL-FATHER.

LORD ODIN, MERCY, WE BEG YOU!

THIS BODES ILL, MY SON. FOR ALL OF US. IF YOU HAVE ANY WAY OF REACHING THIS NEW THOR, YOU HAD BEST SEND HER WARNING.

I HAVE NO SUCH WAY, MOTHER...

"BUT I WILL GET
RIGHT TO WORK
ON THAT."



THE ASGARDIAN ROYAL DINING HALL. THE LARGEST BAR IN ALL THE REALMS.

BARTENDER.

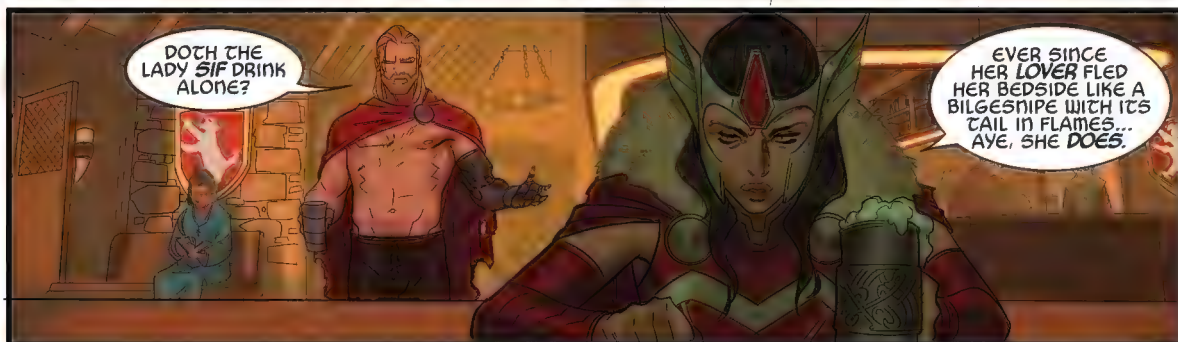
MEAD.

LEAVE THE
BARREL.



DOTH THE
LADY *SIF* DRINK
ALONE?

EVER SINCE
HER LOVER FLED
HER BEDSIDE LIKE A
BILGESNIPE WITH ITS
TAIL IN FLAMES...
AYE, SHE DOES.



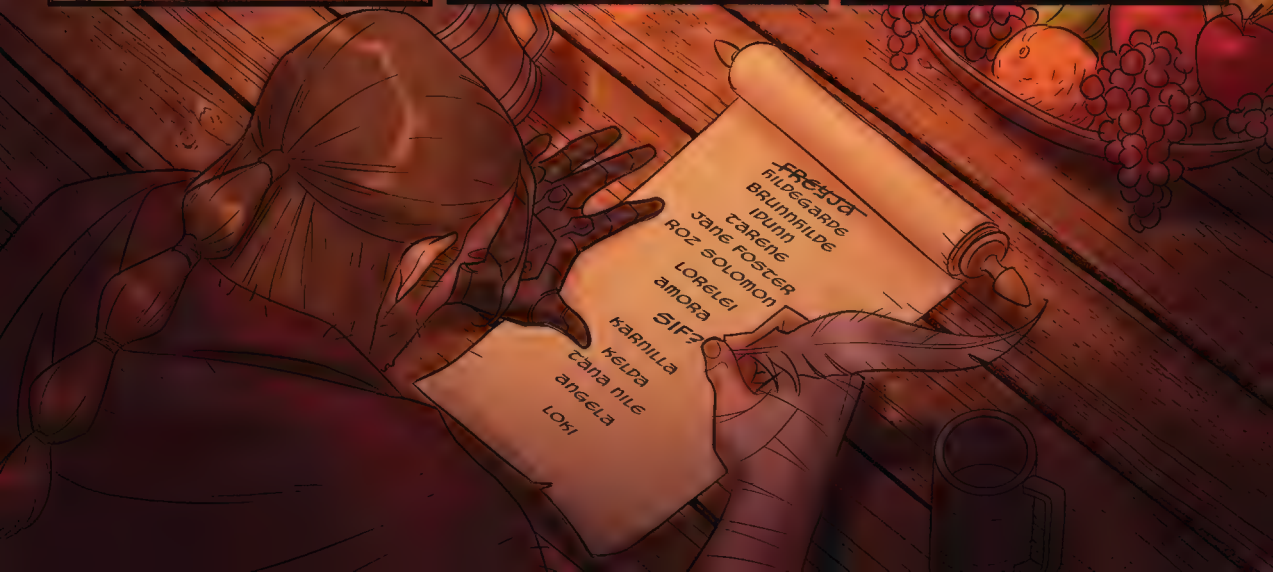
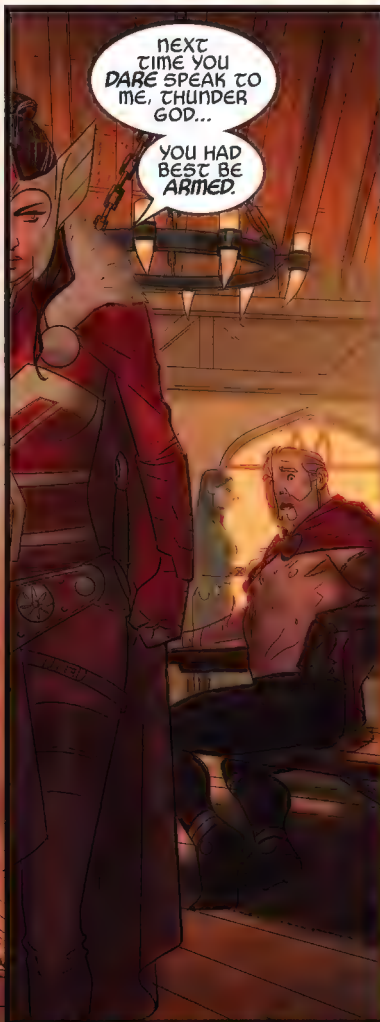
OUR PARTING CAME MANY
MONTHS AGO, MY LADY,
AND I WOULD CALL THAT
A LESS THAN FAIR
DESCRIPTION OF HOW
IT TRANSPIRED.

OF
COURSE YOU
WOULD.

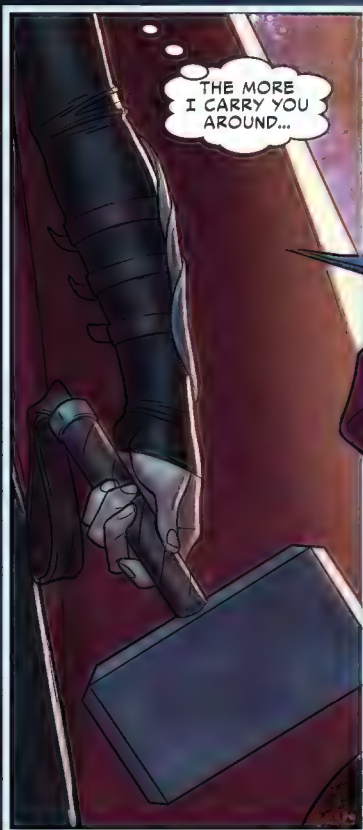
AND BY ALL
MEANS, DO COME
STAGGERING BACK
TO ME *NOW*. ONCE
YOU'RE DESPERATE
FOR SOMETHING TO
HOLD IN PLACE OF
YOUR PRECIOUS
HAMMER!







THE MOON.



THE MORE
I CARRY YOU
AROUND...



THE HARDER IT
GETS WHENEVER
IT'S TIME TO LET
YOU GO.

I DON'T KNOW
HOW I FEEL ABOUT
THAT. NOT TO MENTION
WHAT YOU'RE DOING
TO MY--

PAZZAKDOM



I HOPED
I MIGHT FIND
YOU HERE.

PLEASE,
THOR...DO NOT
BE ALARMED. DO
NOT FLY AWAY. I
CAME ALONE,
BY BIFROST.

I CAME
ONLY TO
TALK.



LADY FREYJA.

I HAVE TO BE VERY CAREFUL AROUND HER. I KNOW HOW SHARP SHE IS.

SHE CAN'T LEARN MY SECRET. NO ONE CAN LEARN MY SECRET.

IT WOULD BE AN HONOR.

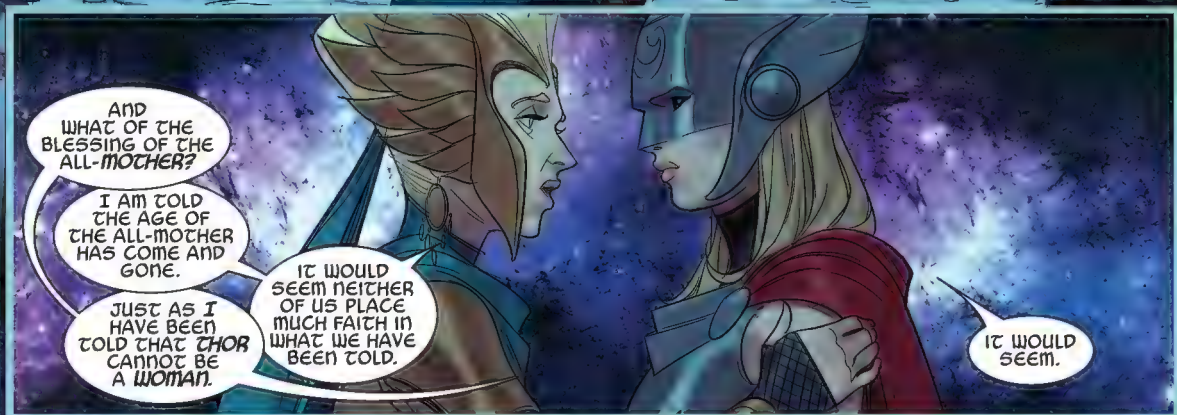


YOU ARE WARY. I UNDERSTAND. YOU GUARD YOUR SECRETS. AS WELL YOU SHOULD. KNOW THAT I HAVE NO INTEREST IN THOSE.

I BELIEVE YOU. THOUGH I DOUBT THAT YOU SPEAK FOR YOUR HUSBAND AS WELL.

MY HUSBAND IS MORE THAN CAPABLE OF SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF. MOST DAYS, IT IS ALL HE DOES.

BUT YOU ARE CORRECT. NO MATTER YOUR HEART OR YOUR DEEDS...I FEAR THE BLESSING OF THE ALL-FATHER WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING.



AND WHAT OF THE BLESSING OF THE ALL-MOTHER?

I AM TOLD THE AGE OF THE ALL-MOTHER HAS COME AND GONE.

JUST AS I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THOR CANNOT BE A WOMAN.

IT WOULD SEEM NEITHER OF US PLACE MUCH FAITH IN WHAT WE HAVE BEEN TOLD.

IT WOULD SEEM.



YOU CARRY THAT HAMMER WELL. YOU CARRY IT WHEN NO ONE ELSE IN ALL THE HEAVENS COULD SO MUCH AS BUDGE THE WRETCHED THING.

THOUGH I HATE TO SEE MY SON IN PAIN, I REJOICE FOR YOU. I DO.

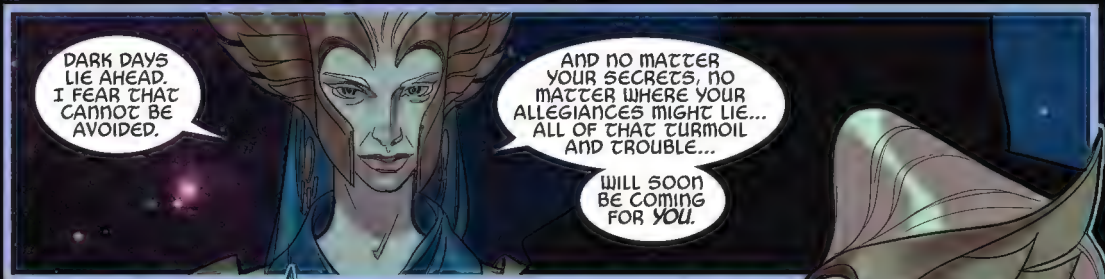
BUT I AM AFRAID I COME TO YOU NOW NOT WITH BLESSINGS... BUT DARK TIDINGS.



THERE WILL BE **TROUBLE** IN ASGARDIA. MY DEAREST ODIN WILL SEE TO THAT.

HE IS NOT ONE TO ACCEPT CHANGE WILLINGLY. **DESPOTS** SO RARELY DO.

AND THERE IS ALREADY TROUBLE IN THE REALMS BEYOND. IF **MALEKICH THE ACCURSED** CONTINUES TO HAVE HIS WAY, WHAT ARE NOW BUT SCATTERED EMBERS WILL SOON BECOME A RAGING **INFERNO**.



DARK DAYS LIE AHEAD. I FEAR THAT CANNOT BE AVOIDED.

AND NO MATTER YOUR SECRETS, NO MATTER WHERE YOUR ALLEGIANCES MIGHT LIE... ALL OF THAT TURMOIL AND TROUBLE...

WILL SOON BE COMING FOR YOU.



I THANK YOU FOR YOUR WARNING, LADY FREYJA. THOUGH PERHAPS YOU SHOULD WARN THIS TROUBLE THAT I WILL SOON BE COMING FOR IT.

MJOLNIR AND I BOTH.

THAT **HAMMER** IS THE GREATEST TROUBLE OF ALL. IT IS A FICKLE MISTRESS THAT MAKES FOOLS OF EVEN THE GODS.



DO NOT JUST BE WORTHY OF THE **HAMMER**.

YOU ARE NOT THE FIRST TO WIELD IT. AND NO MATTER YOUR FATE, YOU WILL NOT BE THE LAST.

BE WORTHY OF THE NAME.

LONG AFTER EVERY **HAMMER** IN CREATION HAS CRUMBLLED TO DUST, THE NAME OF **THOR** WILL ECHO STILL.

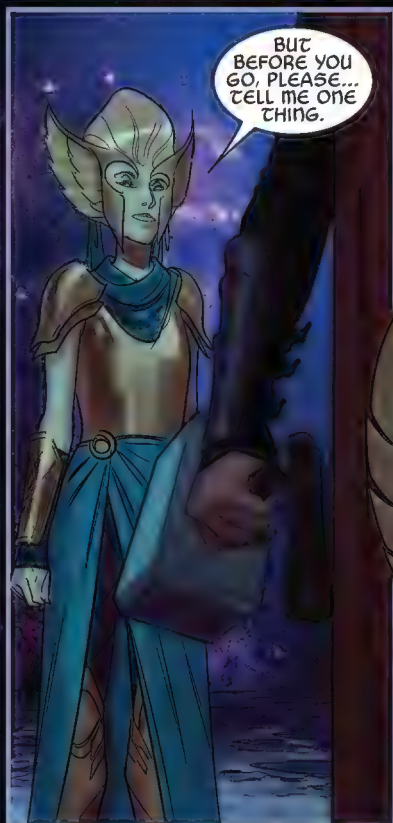
THAT IS THE TRUE HONOR YOU BEAR. THAT IS THE **BURDEN** YOU MUST CARRY.

YOU HAVE MY SOLEMN VOW, ALL-MOTHER FREYJA OF ASGARDIA, MADE HERE IN THE SIGHT OF THE MOON AND ALL THE STARS...

THAT I WILL **DIE** BEFORE I DISHONOR THE LEGACY OF **THOR**.

I PRAY I NEED NEVER HOLD YOU TO THAT VOW.

RISE AND GO IN PEACE. **GODDESS OF THUNDER.**

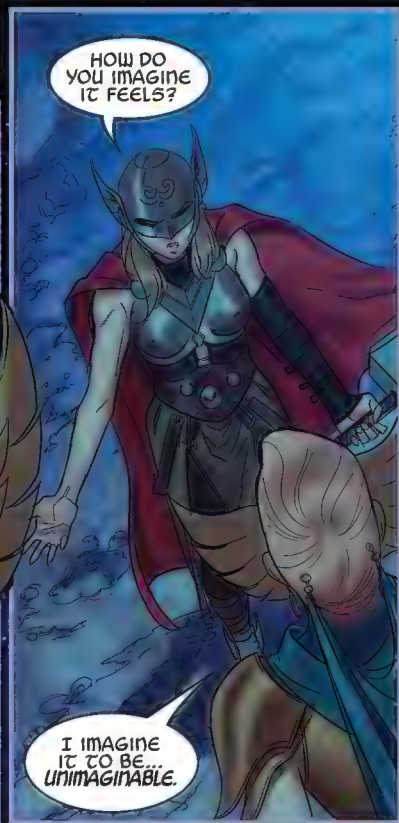


BUT
BEFORE YOU
GO, PLEASE...
TELL ME ONE
THING.



HOW
DOES IT
FEEL?

HOW DOES
IT FEEL TO
BE THOR?



HOW DO
YOU IMAGINE
IT FEELS?

I IMAGINE
IT TO BE...
UNIMAGINABLE.



NOT EVEN
CLOSE.



SHOULD
HAVE PICKED
THE DAMN THING
UP WHEN I HAD
THE CHANCE...





DEEP IN THE BOWELS OF ASGARDIA.

THAT DAMNED
HAMMER ELUDES
ME STILL.

AS DOES
THE **TRUE**
IDENTITY OF
SHE WHO
STOLE IT.

MY ROYAL
ASTROLOGISTS CAN
FIND NO ANSWERS IN
THE STARS. MY ROYAL
SOOTHSAYERS SEE
NAUGHT BUT MIST IN
THEIR CRYSTAL BALLS.
EVEN **ALL-SEEING**
HEIMDALL CAN TELL
ME NOTHING.

MY
OMNIPOTENCE
IS NOT WHAT IT
ONCE WAS, IT
WOULD SEEM.

WHAT OF
THE ROYAL
VIZIERS?

THEY FIND
THEIR CELLS LESS
THAN COMFORTABLE,
I CAN ASSURE YOU,
BUT ALAS, IT HAS
NOT IMPROVED
THEIR MAGIC.

IF PERHAPS I
WERE ALLOWED TO...
MORE FULLY BARE THE
FANGS OF JUSTICE,
I'M QUITE CERTAIN
I COULD SPUR THEM
TO A FAR GREATER
FERVENCY.

DO NOT GIVE
ME CAUSE TO
RECONSIDER YOUR
APPOINTMENT, BROTHER.
THERE IS NO NEED AS
OF YET TO RESORT
TO EXTREME
MEASURES.

KINGDOM

THE MORE
TRADITIONAL
METHODS WILL
SERVE US
JUST FINE.



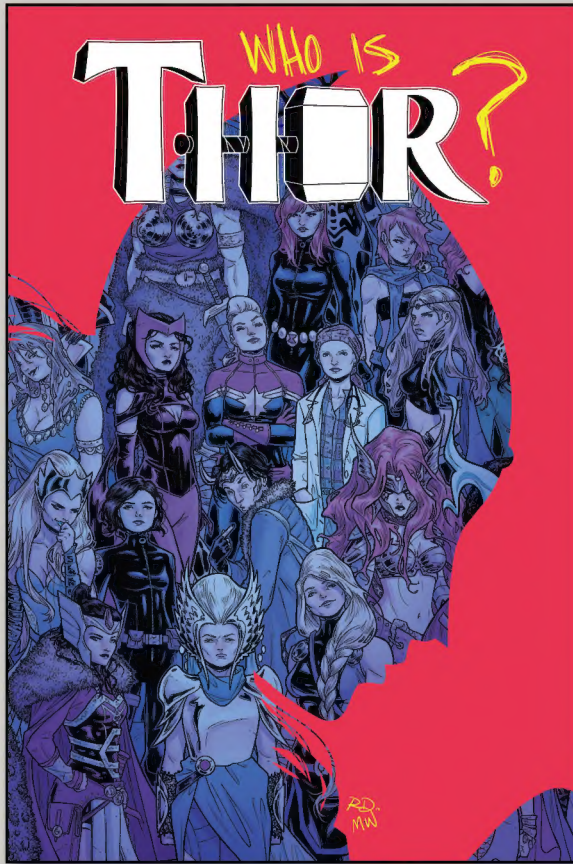
**THE
DESTROYER**
WILL BRING ME
THE HAMMER
OF THOR!

AND
THE BROKEN
BODY OF THE
CHIEF WHO
HOLDS IT!

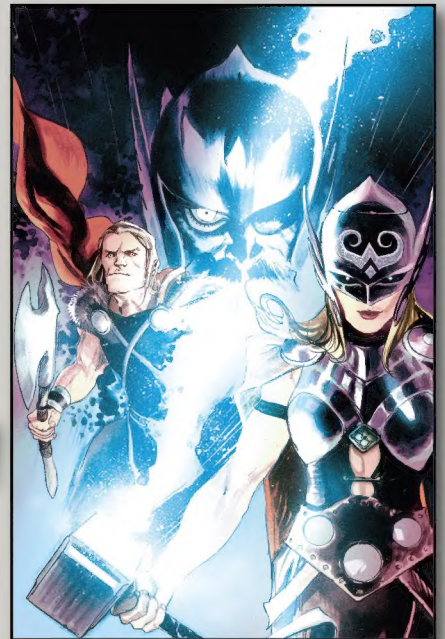


NEXT:

ARTIST RUSSELL DAUTERMAN RETURNS AS THE ODINSON TRIES TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE MYSTERY OF



ALSO COMING SOON:
CM PUNK, NOELLE
STEVENSON AND
JASON AARON BRING
YOU THREE TALES OF
THUNDER IN
THOR ANNUAL #1!



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